

## FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's #  
33-17DUSGS Quad  
Hanover

Area

Form #  
**6**

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
 Massachusetts Archives Building  
 220 Morrissey Boulevard  
 Boston, Massachusetts 02125

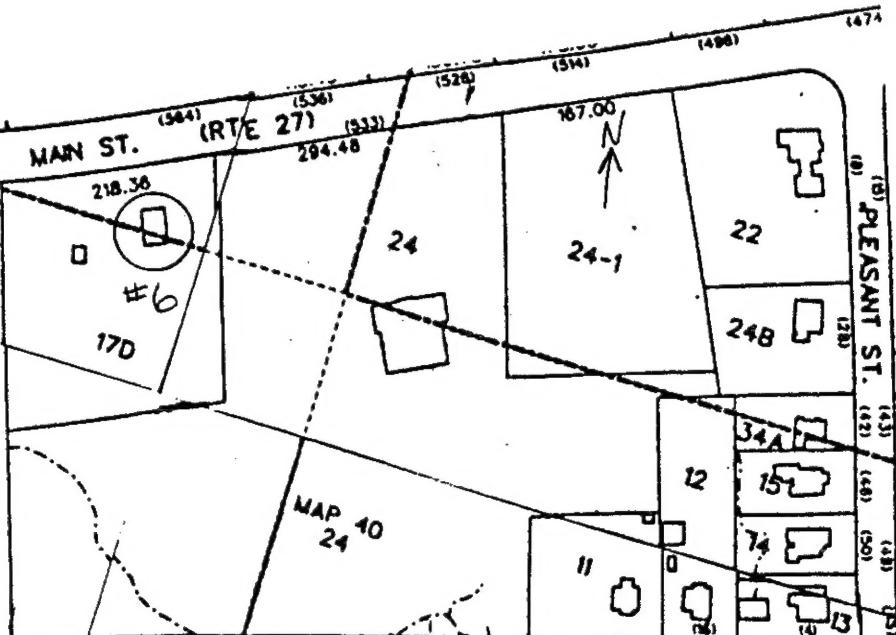
Town **Hanson**

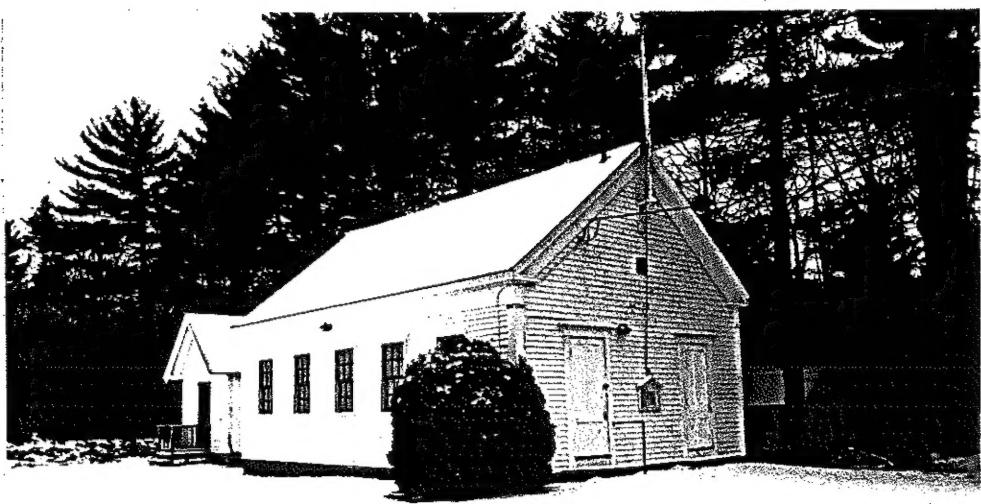
Place

Photo roll/frame 3/32

Address **565 Main Street**Historic Name **School House #4**Use: Present **historical society**Original **school**Date **1845**Source **White, Houses & Typescript, 1992, Ray Towne**Style/Form **Greek Revival/gable front**Architect **N/A**

Exterior Material:

Foundation **granite**Wall/Trim **clapboard**Roof **asphalt**Outbuildings **gabled shed**Major Alterations **none**Condition **excellent**



## ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The School House No. 4 is a well preserved example of a village one-room school house in the Greek Revival style. This one-and-one-half story clapboarded gable block is two bays wide and five bays deep. The gable end has a pair of doorways, each capped by a thin denticulated entablature. The symmetrically fenestrated side elevations have 6/6 double hung sash windows. The restrained, classically derived, detailing includes a wide cornice and cornice returns above wide corner boards. The corner boards are capped with a thin denticulated edge, in a manner suggestive of a pilaster's capital. A very small, one-story, gabled, clapboard and vertical board building (origin and use unknown at this time) is sited just behind and perpendicular to the school house. The school is set back from the road, on a small lot bounded by pine trees to the west and the asphalt driveway to the former L.Z. Thomas School to the east.

## HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

The presence of schools in Hanson predates its 1820 incorporation, dating back to 1754. At the time of the town's incorporation five school districts were organized: Cushing, Barstow, Lowden, Cox, and Barker. Ten years later the total number had expanded to nine districts. In 1867 the district system was abolished. School House #4 has been moved three times since its construction in 1845. Historical maps show that the school house was originally on the east side of Elm Street, about one-quarter mile south of Main Street. At that time it was known as the District #7 School. In 1867 the school was moved to the north side of Main Street, just east of the intersection with Elm Street. At that time it became Primary #4. The school remained at that location until 1939 when it was moved to the east side of L.Z. Thomas School. In the new location the building was used for grade 4 students. In 1962 the school house was moved to its present location, just to the west of the L.Z. Thomas School. At that time the building was donated to the Hanson Historical Society, which held its first meeting in the building on October 3, 1963..

## REFERENCES

- Smith, Plan of Hanson, 1830
- Walling, Map of Hanson, 1856
- Walker, Atlas of Plymouth County, 1879
- Richards, Atlas of Plymouth County, 1903
- Pictorial History of Hanson, v. 1
- White, History of Houses in Hanson, 1932
- Ray Towne, typescript, 1992, at Hanson Historical Society

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. See NR Criteria Statement form.

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Community  
**Hanson**

Property Address  
**565 Main Street**

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## National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement Form



Check all that apply:

Individually eligible.  
 Contributing to a potential district.

Eligible only in a historic district.  
 Potential historic district.

Criteria:  A  B  C  D

Criteria Considerations:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Statement of Significance by **Dempsey/Driemeyer**.

The School House No. 4 is a well-preserved example of a village one-room school house in the Greek Revival style. This one-and-one-half story clapboarded building has a pair of doorways on the gable end. School House #4 has been moved three times since its construction in 1845 and is Hanson's only remaining school house. The School House is now located adjacent to a grammar school and is owned by the Hanson Historical Society. The School House #4 meets criteria A and C at the local level. It retains integrity of setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.